

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IFW

In re Patent Application of

GOMA et al

Serial No. 10/519,560

Filed: December 28, 2004

For: THIN PLATE MANUFACTURING METHOD AND THIN  
PLATE MANUFACTURING APPARATUS



Atty. Ref.: 914-200

Group: 2818

Examiner: Le, T.P.

\* \* \* \* \*

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

- ☒ 1. **PTO-1449 Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b)**  
[within 3 months of filing or prior to 1st Office Action] *N/C*
- ☐ 2. **Statement Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c)**  
[before Final Office Action or Allowance] *N/C*
- ☐ 3. **Fee Payment Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c)**  
[before Final Office Action or Allowance] *\$180.00*
- ☐ 4. **Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(d)**  
[before Issue Fee payment] *\$180.00*

The following are submitted in the above-identified application in compliance with 37  
C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98:

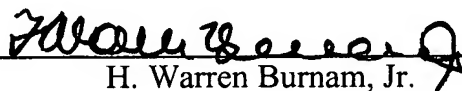
- ☒ 5. A list of documents on Form PTO-1449 together with copies of each  
identified document and a translation or a concise explanation of each non-  
English language document is enclosed herewith.
  - ☒ a) The EP 1 113 096 reference cited in the German Office Action was previously  
cited in the IPER and submitted with the IDS filed August 18, 2005. The DE  
reference (102 97 102), which is cited for the first time, is a counterpart of U.S.  
publication 2004/0238024 (which was also submitted with the IDS filed August  
18, 2005).

This paper is submitted in accordance with:

- ☒ 6. 37 CFR 1.97(b): [within 3 months of filing or prior to 1st Office Action]
- ☐ 7. 37 CFR 1.97(c): [before Final Office Action or Allowance, whichever is earlier]; and
- ☐ a) The required Statement made in item 9 below; or
- ☐ b) The \$180.00 fee specified in 37 CFR §1.17(p) for submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is authorized in item 10 below.
- ☐ 8. 37 CFR §1.97(d): [before issue fee payment]; and
- ☐ a) The fee (\$180.00) required by 37 CFR §1.17(p) is submitted herewith; and
- ☐ b) The required Statement is stated in item 9 below.
- ☐ 9. Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)
- ☐ a) The undersigned attorney of record hereby certifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (each item contained in this IDS was the first citation of that item by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application which occurred no more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS); or
- ☐ b) No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☒ 10. Please charge all deficiency fees associated with the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and any other fees applicable to this application to Deposit Account No. 14-1140. An original and one (1) copy of this document are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

March 14, 2006

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(Use several sheets if necessary)

SERIAL NO.

10/519,560

**APPLICANT**

GOMA et al

FILING DATE

**GROUP**

December 28, 2004

2818

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
 MAR 14 2006  
 (10 sheets if necessary)

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)

	German Office Action and English translation thereof mailed January 31, 2006 in corresponding German application 103 92 847.2-43

\*Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.

Form PTO-FB-A820 (Also PTO-1449)